

6 October 1960

Committee III - Expansion of Trade

ANNEX B

FINISHED LEATHER, LEATHER FOOTWEAR

AND LEATHER GOODS (Draft)

Addendum

United States suggested draft for paragraph 2 of paper on leather

The Committee noted that there was an upward trend in world demand for leather and leather products, especially shoe leathers and footwear, which was reflected in an expansion of imports in many markets. In one large industrialized country, for example, the ratio of imports of calf and kip leather to consumption had increased from 2.7 per cent in 1954 to 11 per cent in 1958; the imports of leather footwear had doubled between 1956 and 1958. The upward trend imports in this market appeared to be continuing. The Committee noted with satisfaction that at least 1/6 of the leather goods imports (other than footwear) of this country were supplied by the less developed countries. The Committee also noted that, in recent years, many less developed countries had increased their imports, particularly of footwear. It was felt that by directing the necessary attention to the requirements of the market, less developed countries could be expected to share in the growing world market for finished leather and leather products.